



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HA
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,743	01/23/2002	John Cooper	23742-005	3270

29315 7590 04/23/2004

MINTZ LEVIN COHN FERRIS GLOVSKY AND POPEO PC
12010 SUNSET HILLS ROAD
SUITE 900
RESTON, VA 20190

EXAMINER

REIFSNYDER, DAVID A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1723

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**

Address : COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. JW
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
----------	-------

20040420

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Attached is a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 which was filed on February 9, 2004. The original signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 has been scanned and made of record in this Application Serial No. 10/052,743. The applicants instantly claimed fluid distribution device is patentably distinct over GB 1 468 897 because while GB 1 468 897 discloses a fluid distribution device comprising an inlet having a first width, and an outlet, the outlet having a second width, and a separator, wherein the separator receives fluid from the inlet and directs solid matter along a first path and substantially debris free fluid towards the outlet; and at least one aperture intermediate the separator and the outlet having a third width; GB 1 468 897 fails to disclose or fairly suggest that the second width is less than the first width and the third width is less than the second width. Furthermore, GB 1 468 897 suggest that the third width is greater than the second width; therefore, solid matter passing through the aperture will not necessarily pass through the outlet. The applicants instantly claimed fluid distribution device is patentably distinct over WO 91/09251 because while WO 91/09251 discloses a centrifugal oil filter for cleaning lubricating oil comprising an inlet having a first width, and an outlet, the outlet having a second width, and a separator, wherein the separator receives oil from the inlet and directs solid matter along a first path and substantially debris free oil towards the outlet; and at least one aperture intermediate the separator and the outlet having a third width which is less than the second width; WO 91/09251 fails to disclose or fairly suggest that the second width is less than the first width. Furthermore, WO 91/09251 is directed to cleaning and pumping lubricating oil not cooling fluid. Therefore the centrifugal oil filter of WO 91/09251 as well as other centrifugal oil filters are not constructed and arranged in a manner which would make their outlets capable of providing a flow of fluid to a device to be cooled. Lobsinger et al. has been reviewed but is no better than the prior art of record and therefore does not anticipate or render obvious the applicants instantly claimed fluid distribution device.

David A Reifsnyder
David A Reifsnyder
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1723